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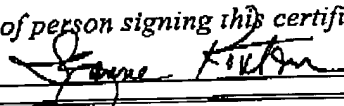
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Group Art Unit: 2665 )  
Examiner: Phuongchau Nguyen )  
Inventors: BuAbbud et al. )  
Serial No. 09/876,439 )  
Filing Date: June 6, 2001 )  
Title: Wavelength Division Multiplexed )  
(WDM) Ring Passive Optical )  
Network (PON) With Route )  
Protection For Replacement Of )  
Splitter Based Passive Optical )  
Networks )  
Atty. Docket No.: 766726-610058 )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

<p align="center"><u>Certificate of Transmission</u></p> <p><i>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via Facsimile to United States Patent &amp; Trademark Office Facsimile Number (703) 872 - 9306 on <u>January 28, 2005</u>.</i></p> <p><i>Printed name of person signing this certificate:</i> <u>Suzanne Koston</u></p> <p><i>Signature:</i> <u></u></p>
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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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Sir:

Entry of the attached preliminary amendment is requested.